

EDWARD de GRAFFENREID

Associate Justice - 1912-1915

BORN: January 31, 1861; near Greensboro, Alabama (Hale Co.)

DIED: April 5, 1922: Tuscaloosa, Alabama

Edward deGraffenreid earned his college degree from Southern University at Greensboro. After his graduation in 1880, he studied law in the office of his uncle, Thomas Seay, and was admitted to practice in 1882. He remained in Greensboro to practice law, first with Hilliard Judge, and later with his uncle until the latter's death in 1898.

In the area of public service, deGraffenreid was a member of the 1901 Constitutional Convention as well as legal adviser to Governor Emmett O'Neal. In 1911, O'Neal appointed him to the newly created Court of Appeals, and in 1912, deGraffenreid was appointed associate justice of the Supreme Court to succeed Robert T. Simpson. He retired from the court three years later and resumed his law practice, this time in Tuscaloosa. He was trying a case in circuit court on the day of his death.

Described as an able and concise writer, deGraffenreid wrote several articles on common law, constitutional law, and prominent lawyers. He also read several papers before the Alabama State Bar, and served as its president in 1904.

Edward deGraffenreid was married in 1886 to Mary Alice Meriwether of Eutaw. They had one son.